

Bridgeport Evening Farmer

VOL. 51—NO. 102

BRIDGEPORT, CONN., THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 1915

PRICE TWO CENTS

ITALY TO AID ALLIES IF NEW ENTENTE IS FORMED AND TERRITORY PROMISED

ROOSEVELT SAYS WHITMAN SOUGHT TO OUST BARNES

Present Governor of New York Wrote to Progressives, Last Year, That Time Was Ripe For Ridding State of Control That Caused Corruption.

Colonel Says He Thought Whitman Had Barnes in Mind When He Wrote—Former President Excused Today After Seven Days on the Witness Stand.

Syracuse, April 29.—In a letter produced by counsel for Theodore Roosevelt during the re-direct examination of the former President today, Governor Charles Whitman, then district attorney of New York, told Charles H. Duell, of New York, that "the time is ripe" for all Progressive Republicans and members of the Progressive party to "rid the state of the party control, which is responsible for corruption in politics."

The letter was written in 1914 and the then district attorney wrote "that the men and the policies responsible" for the corrupt conditions were not confined to any one party. Mr. Barnes' name was not mentioned in the letter but the colonel, in reply to questions, said he understood that the reference was to him.

Col. Roosevelt was excused from the stand shortly after this letter was introduced.

The colonel took a walk into the country today before going to the courthouse. The defense summoned by telegraph several witnesses expected to go upon the stand after the colonel was finished with.

When the colonel entered the courtroom the spectators applauded him and the court attended him with some difficulty in restoring order.

When quiet had been restored Justice Andrews ascended the bench and court was opened. The colonel smiled and in testimony to the judge took his seat in the witness chair, crossed one leg over the other, stuck one thumb in the armpole of his vest and awaited the first question from his counsel, which was about a letter in which Messrs. Bidwell and Stranahan were mentioned.

"I remember that letter," said the colonel. "Senator Platt wanted Mr. Bidwell appointed collector of the port of New York. It seemed inadvisable, however, so I appointed Mr. Stranahan, a state senator."

In regard to the election of Seth Low as mayor of New York and a meeting he arranged between Mr. Low and Senator Platt, the colonel said:

"The organization helped elect Mr. Low. I wanted Mr. Low to take the Continued on Page 2.

J. J. O'CONNELL, INDUSTRIAL LEADER TO SPEAK TONIGHT

Specialists in Metal Trades Will Gather at Machinists' Hall to Hear Him

James J. O'Connell, member of the commission on industrial relations, and president of the Metal Trades Department of the A. F. of L., will be the speaker this evening at the meeting of the Metal Trades Council of this city which will hold a grand open meeting.

Molders, machinists, sheet metal workers, blacksmiths, electricians and metal trades specialists of all kinds are invited to be present. Mr. O'Connell is a forceful and interesting speaker.

DRY STATE BILL TO BE REPORTED IN LEGISLATURE

Amendment Prohibiting Sale of Liquor Will Go To House.

Hartford, April 29.—A proposed constitutional amendment will be reported to the House tomorrow which would prohibit the manufacture and sale of spirituous and intoxicating liquors.

The bill amending the automobile law was repassed by the House, when it agreed to the Senate amendment which would prohibit the manufacture and sale of spirituous and intoxicating liquors.

On the bill requiring that liquor licenses shall not be forfeited under certain technical convictions there was some debate but the bill was adopted 16 to 8.

APPROPRIATIONS OF \$13,000,000 GAIN O.K. FROM SENATE

Hartford, April 29.—The general appropriation bill carrying \$13,000,000 to meet the ordinary expenses of the state for the next two years, was adopted by the Senate today without any amendment affecting the figures.

The notable feature of this appropriation bill is that for the first time in the state's legislative history or at least in recent years, all statutory appropriations have been included in one general bill.

GENERAL TAX BILL COMES UP TUESDAY

Hartford, April 29.—The general taxation bill with its provision for a tax on the corporate excess which was to have been discussed in the Senate today, was not taken up and it was again made the order of the day for Tuesday.

Knights of Columbus Will Confer Degree Upon 75 Candidates

Seventy-five members of the Knights of Columbus will receive the third degree this Sunday at Eagles' hall on Madison avenue. The New York degree team in charge of District Deputy William E. Hooley, will work the initiation. The ceremony will commence at 8 o'clock. Preparations are being made for the reception of many of the state officers who have accepted the invitation to be present. The five Grand Knights in charge of the ceremonies are: Jas. Beck, Thomas McMullen, Richard Kelly, George Kelly and Joseph Morris.

DR. C. JUDSON NICHOLS OPENS HIS OFFICE HERE

Dr. C. Judson Nichols, a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, School of Dentistry, has opened offices in the Sanford building. Dr. Nichols is a native of Shelton and is well known here.

ARRESTED FOR THEFT

Edward Carroll, aged 18, 957 Central avenue, was arrested this morning at his home by Policeman Gorzak upon a warrant sworn out by Michael Grasse, charging that Carroll stole a bicycle. Although Carroll at first declared that he owned the machine, he later broke down and is said to have confessed to the police that he took it. He will be charged with theft in the city court tomorrow.

EHLERT'S WIFE INSISTS HE MET WITH FOUL PLAY

Had Always Betrayed Aversion of Suicide, She Says Emphatically.

AUTOPSY LEADS TO VERDICT OF DROWNING

Coroner Phelan Inquires Into Mysterious Death of Oysterman.

Insisting that her husband must have met with foul play and protesting that he had every reason in the world for wishing to avoid suicide, Mrs. Louisa W. Ehler, wife of the man who was found dangling in the water from a rope tied to the sloop, Democrat, emphatically asserted today her belief that Ehler was a victim of an enemy or enemies.

Coroner J. J. Phelan began his investigation this morning into the mysterious death. An autopsy was performed on the body. The autopsy was made in August G. Baker's undertaking establishment on Stratford avenue under the direction of Medical Examiner Samuel M. Garlick, assisted by Drs. Edward M. Fitzgerald, J. H. Finnegan, E. B. Weldon and George Garlick, disclosed that Ehler was in good physical condition prior to death, which was due to drowning. Such external marks as were displayed upon the body are declared to have been produced through action of the water.

At her home on Smith street Mrs. Ehler declared "I believe that my husband met with foul play for he was happy when he left home, had arranged for a prosperous summer season and above all, held that 'life is too short' when it came to matters of chance." Under this belief he had for many years refused to run his 50-foot sloop in the winter.

She said further, "My husband would never have committed suicide on his boat unless he had first drowned his dog. That dog was loved by his master as he would have loved his own child. He had been brought up from a three-day old puppy by my husband who has now had him nine years. I cannot conceive of suicide with the dog still alive."

The last seen of Captain Ehler at his home was Monday night, which corresponds with the statements of Mandus Peterson, made today in full detail to the police. Peterson nevertheless was held under \$500 bonds in the city court upon technical charges of breach of peace, that the police might investigate further.

Detective George Fox, who with Charles Clark, the man who had first discovered Captain Ehler's body, made a trip to the sloop this morning with Coroner John J. Phelan. It was found that the victim's body had been tied to the loose end of a painter-rope which had been carried from the dory alongside to the sloop rigging and thence aft and was looped over the after rail of the boat. At the foot of this Captain Ehler's body was discovered in about 22 feet of water.

Clark, with E. F. Brown, watchman at the power-house, were positive today that death was probably due to suicide in view of the fact that (Continued on Page 13.)

VISITED TWICE BY BURGLARS SHE BUYS HERSELF REVOLVER

Jones Avenue Woman Has Busy Time Frightening Away Intruders at Home.

Twice within a week has Mrs. Julia Smith of 195 Jones avenue scared a would-be burglar from her window. Last night again she found a man skulking under her window and to-day she purchased a revolver determined that if the police would not protect her she would protect herself.

At 2:40 last Sunday morning, Mrs. Smith, who had taken her taken her five-year-old niece, Emily Barnes with her for company, was awakened by a noise at her window. The window was open and Mrs. Smith sitting up in bed discerned the form of a man who was endeavoring to climb through the window. She screamed and the man dropped to the yard and away. At about 1:45 on the Tuesday morning before Mrs. Smith had surprised a man who was trying to climb in the same window. She complained to the police both times. Last night she again saw a man in the yard. To-day she has a fully loaded revolver and she hopes the intruder comes again to-night.

WEATHER FORECAST

Showers this afternoon or tonight, warmer tonight. Friday fair.

MAN WITH ONE EYE RUNS DOWN SWEEPER WHO NOW SEES DOUBLE

Fifteen years ago James J. Buckley, 49 Edwin street, aged 21, lost an eye. It was shot out by a brother of Herman Koehler, a street sweeper, of 1635 Stratford avenue. Yesterday when Buckley was riding a motorcycle, he ran down Koehler, who caused his arrest for reckless driving.

Buckley pleaded with Koehler to relent, on the ground that Koehler's brother was to blame for his having only one eye. Koehler was obdurate. The city court today imposed a fine of \$60 and costs, but judgment was suspended.

Koehler remarked in court that he had been "seeing double" since the accident.

DISCORD ARISES BETWEEN MYERS AND S. R. GORDON

Secret Peace Conference of Civic and Municipal Committees Called.

Strained relations between Spencer R. Gordon, the Cincinnati man brought here to handle the Bridgeport charities department, and Lee E. Myers, the South Carolinian, who came here from Columbus to supervise the Charities Organization Society's affairs, have come almost to a breaking point.

In an effort to restore harmony between these men, whose duties call for co-operation, two committees, one representing the city of Bridgeport, through its charities department, and the other representing the charities organization society, will meet in secret conference to-night.

An effort will be made to bring the two men together, but indication was given this afternoon that neither would attend unless specific orders were given them to that effect.

The charities department will be represented by W. W. Bechler, Jr., president of the board, and by Father Mathew Judge, a member of the board. The charities organization society's committee includes Rev. John R. Brown, chairman; William R. Webster and Albert E. Lavery.

WILL JOURNEY TO MOSCOW TO WORK IN SINGER PLANT

Two Young Men of Bridgeport Plan to Leave Here For Russian City.

In order to gain entrance to Russia, where they will take positions in the Singer Manufacturing company plant in Moscow, William Ellison and John J. O'Connell of this city, applied this morning to Naturalization Clerk Flanagan for passports. He will send the applications to the proper government officials in Washington and when the documents are returned here Ellison and O'Connell will have to attach their photographs to the passports in accordance with the recent regulations of the countries there.

Another applicant for a passport was Miss Cornelia Judson of Stratford, sister of the late Attorney Stiles Judson. She plans to visit Japan to resume missionary work there. She will go by way of Panama and spend a month in California to visit the San Francisco and San Diego exhibitions.

GERMAN WRITER DENIES BRITISH WAR BULLETINS

Berlin, April 29.—Wilhelm Schefmann, a well-known German war correspondent, has sent the following report to his paper:

"When one compares the German general staff report with that of the British, there is an irreconcilable difference. In my trips along the front by Neuve Chapelle and Givenchy, I have traveled much of the time in territory which, according to reports and maps published in English newspapers, is in possession of the British troops but in reality I did not see a single Englishman on the road, not even a prisoner.

Since the preceding day had been very quiet, I entered upon the field of the battle of a spot which, according to British representations, was a part of the gain in the battle of Neuve Chapelle. According to British reports and maps the village must be in British hands but it did not look so; every house was flying the Bavarian flag, made by tearing the superfluous red stripes from the French tri-color."

RINGLING BROS. CIRCUS TO USE CRANE CO. LOT

First Time in 30 Years For Big Circus To Exhibit in South End.

BARNUM'S CHERISHED SCHEME IS REALIZED

Famous Showman Bought Park Property Thinking of Circus Location.

For the first time in 30 years a big circus is to show in the South End. The Ringling Bros. circus, which for the sixth time will make Bridgeport on May 24, will pitch the "White Tops" on the big lot on the "Flats" at Iranistan and South avenues.

Years ago when P. T. Barnum bought a site for a residence on the South End and began the layout for a side park it was his wish of his heart that some day his big show should exhibit on a lot in that section. During his life, however, business reasons, coupled with a consideration of the best lines of transportation dictated that the show should be given on the lot north of the winter quarters, between Norman street and Wordin avenue.

In late years the show has exhibited on the old Sherwood driving park in Fairfield avenue, just west of the railroad viaduct.

For several years streets have been cut through this tract connecting with the Hungarian settlement in the West End. Now many houses have been built on the property and it is no longer available for show purposes. A number of advance men for the show have been in this city recently and it was reported that the circus has been hard put for a lot to show on.

However, long before the Barnum & Bailey show left town it was arranged that the show would exhibit on the Crane lot.

The big tops of the Ringling Bros. show and the Barnum & Bailey show were paraded on this lot before either show left winter quarters. The winter quarters of the Barnum & Bailey show are in Bridgeport, where the winter quarters of the Ringling Bros. in Baraboo, Wis. The Ringling Bros., who own both shows, maintain a big hall left in this city in which all their tents are made.

The Barnum & Bailey circus will not play the East this season. No circus will play San Francisco because of the Panama-Pacific exposition there. The exposition managers will not allow shows on the fair grounds. The show is now located at the Ringling Bros. expects to make Oakland just across the bay for a week during fair time.

The No. 1 advance car of the Ringling Bros. show is expected to come here next Monday, May 3. Attaches of this car will make the preliminary arrangements for the coming of the show. When the Ringling show came east for the first time nearly 20 years ago, it showed on the Parrott lot on North avenue, where now a school house is in the course of erection.

At that time P. T. Barnum was dead but the late James A. Bailey was in active charge of several giant show enterprises, including the Barnum show, the Buffalo Bill Wild West and Black America. That the Ringling Brothers, who had previously toured the west and made west should dare invade the east was considered an affront by the Barnum show interests, and political pressure was brought to bear to prevent the show getting a license to exhibit in Bridgeport the home town of the Barnum show.

The late Walter B. Bostwick was the mayor of Bridgeport. He had been an old friend of P. T. Barnum and was one of the greatest admirers of the old showman but beyond admiration for anyone he had a well defined sense of fair play. He not only insisted that the show should have the license but he saw to it that no excessive charge was made and he also took steps to secure a location on the Parrott lot. Two years afterward the Ringling show came to Bridgeport again and showed on the lot where the Cornwall & Patterson factory is now located at State street and Fairfield avenue.

It was said today that the Ringling show had secured Crane park for the location for the cook and horse tents. The lot selected is not as advantageous to the society lines as the old lots in the West End which were reached by State street and Fairfield avenue. The Ringling show is now located at State street and Fairfield avenue.

For years small circuses exhibited in the lot at the foot of Main street west of the factory of the Locomotive company but there are buildings on this lot now and no show has been there since July, 1908.

SHIP SUBMARINES BY RAIL

Ancona, Italy, April 29.—Information has been received from Pola, the Austrian naval base, to the effect that several German submarines have been shipped there in sections by railroad.

Will Not Engage in Present Trench Warfare, But Will Time Entrance Into Conflict As to Make Blow Most Effective—Triple Alliance To Be Extended in Case of Victory.

Great Britain Finally Won Over to Italian Demands Despite Opposition, is Unofficial Report From Rome—French Diplomacy Largely Responsible for Latest Understanding.

Rome, April 29.—From persons in close touch with the war situation as it affects Italy, there was obtained today information which indicates that the government has arrived at an understanding with Great Britain and France concerning the terms upon which Italy will enter the war, if she eventually decides to do so.

This information, while unofficial, is gathered from men who are close to the situation. The agreement is described as follows:

First—A provision for concerted military action. Italy will refrain from hostilities during the present stage of desultory trench warfare which would enable Germany and Austria to concentrate a large part of their forces against her. She will time her blow to synchronize with a general effort by all the opponents of the central empires now in the field.

Second—An understanding concerning the territory to be awarded to Italy in the event of victory.

Third—A provision that after the war an alliance shall be formed between Italy and the present triple entente, of Great Britain, France and Russia.

It is intimated that at the outset Great Britain was not disposed to make terms with Italy but that Italy firmly declined to consider joining the allies without first having received a definite agreement with them concerning the nature and time of her co-operation, boundary readjustments after the war and permanent assistance from the allies.

Italy is said to have received powerful assistance from French diplomacy in reaching the desired understanding on these points.

VON BUELOW, KAISER'S ENVOY, LABORED LONG TO WIN ITALY

On the Italian Frontier, April 29.—There has been received here from a source in Rome that is thoroughly trustworthy, a presentation of most important points in the negotiations between Italy and the central empires. This disclosure, it is said, may now be made without detriment to the interests affected, as the situation has reached such a point that no revelations can affect the policy settled upon by Italy.

The information thus received is as follows:

"When Prince Von Buelow was accredited to Rome as German ambassador he was charged with the definite task of preventing Italy from entering the war, it being believed by that time that if Italy took up arms it would be on the side of the allies."

The ambassador received encouragement from the German government, even if satisfying her only in part, would cause a large section of the public to urge the government to accept them and thus avoid hardships of war. The ambassador, accordingly, sought to the Italy's hands by the transmission of a note which even if satisfying her only in part, would cause a large section of the public to urge the government to accept them and thus avoid hardships of war.

The German ambassador first proposed a settlement whereby Italy should receive the Austrian territory inhabited principally by Italians. This suggestion originally was vague and was not accompanied by evidence that Austria had acquiesced in it. Several weeks were required to give shape to this proposal, which eventually was reduced to a plan for rectification of the Italian frontier in such a way as to make it less open to invasion.

In the meantime, Italy's military preparations were approaching completion. This enabled Foreign Minister Sonnino to assume a firmer attitude. He said clearly that the government could not possibly come to any understanding which was contrary to the unanimous wishes of the people and parliament, stating that there was a complete unity of sentiment.

Furthermore, he said, the cabinet was unwilling to continue negotiations started by Germany unless they should be participated in by Austria, with which any agreement necessarily must be concluded.

"Austria at first declared that Emperor Francis Joseph would never consent to the alienation of one inch of territory. Thus facing an impossible situation Prince Von Buelow threatened to abandon his post. Rather than a rupture Austria entered the situation to state her demands."

"It was at the middle of March when Italy made a response repeating to Austria, virtually what she already had said about territorial aggrandizement to Prince Von Buelow. To this, she added that she wished Austria to pledge herself that, whatever the result of the war, she would respect the territorial integrity of Serbia. The reaction received here said that Donal West, President Wilson's personal representative in Mexico, was due to arrive at Vera Cruz today from Mexico City. It was expected that he would sail for the United States on Friday."

CARRANZA EXPECTS U. S. TO RECOGNIZE GOVERNMENT SOON

Washington, April 29.—Unofficial advice received here today indicated that General Carranza expected early recognition by the United States government attracted widespread attention in official and diplomatic circles here. The Carranza authorities have been active recently in seeking recognition and it has been reported that they intended issuing a statement covering their intentions. The United States government, it is said, had been advised of the Carranza plans although it was said at the state department that the question of recognition had not been formally considered.